

Message Text

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53

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 PM-07 NSC-07 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-03 DRC-01 /107 W

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R 231015Z APR 74

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2469

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 0270

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, MZ

SUBJECT: FRELIMO AMBUSH ON MAIN HIGHWAY

1. NOTICIAS OF APRIL 23 REPORTS FRELIMO GUERRILLAS KILLED THREE TRUCK DRIVERS IN TWO SUCCESSIVE AMBUSHES SEVERAL KILOMETERS SOUTH OF INCHOPE ON A DESERTED STRETCH OF NATIONAL HIGHWAY NO. 1 RUNNING FROM LOURENCO MARQUES TO BEIRA (INCHOPE IS JUNCTION OF HIGHWAY NO. 1 WITH BEIRA-RHODESIA HIGHWAY). IN FIRST ATTACK, GUERRILLAS KILLED ONE TRUCK DRIVER, WHILE ANOTHER SUCCEEDED IN ESCAPING. ALSO BURNED TRUCK THEY WERE DRIVING. SECOND ATTACK, SEVERAL KILOMETERS FURTHER SOUTH, WAS ON TWO TRUCKS, KILLING BOTH DRIVERS POINT BLANK. NATIONAL FORCES NOW SEARCHING FOR GUERRILLAS. COMMENT: THIS IS FIRST ATTACK ON MOZAMBIQUE'S MAIN HIGHWAY AND AS SUCH MAY WELL HAVE EFFECT ON NORTH-SOUTH TRAFFIC.

2. YOUNG PORTUGUESE GEOLOGIST, WHO HAS JUST SPENT SEVERAL WEEKS ON FIELD TRIP NEAR VILA DE MANICA, REPORTS THE AREA
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CALM WITH ONLY ONE RECENT GUERRILLA ACTION: APRIL 16 ATTACK ON SMALL FARM ROAD 6 KMS. NORTH OF VILA DE MANICA IN WHICH

A FARMER, A MILITIA AND THREE WORKERS WERE AMBUSHED. MILITIA
WAS KILLED AND FARMER WOUNDED. SOURCE SAID INHABITANTS
EXPECT ATTACKS ON BEIRA-RHODESIA RAILWAY TO START AGAIN SOON,
CLAIMING CESSATION OF ATTACKS DURING RECENT WEEKS WAS DUE
TO FACT THAT TRAINS HAD BEEN CARRYING CORN TO ZAMBIA.
VAN OSS

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